(Public (Political) **(1949) Department.**

M/s **SERIES.**

G.O. NO. 3384

Dated 6-10-1949.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Sandur - Release of private property of the Ruler - Rights of third parties - Government of India's views - Papers recorded -

No. D. 6821- P/ 49.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF STATES

From

The Deputy Secretary
to the Government of India,
Ministry of States.

To

The Chief Secretary
to the Government of Madras,
Madras.

Dated New Delhi, the 3rd August, 1949.

Subject:- Merger of Sandur.

....

Sir,

I am directed to enclose a copy of letter from the Raja of Sandur dated the 28th July, 1949 to Mr.Vellodi and to request that instructions may be issued to the authorities concerned as regards the terms of Agreement and the private properties of the Ruler which have been accepted by the Government of India. The acting Garrison Engineer, Bangalore, does not seem to be aware of this and he should be told that for any information that he requires he should approach the District Collector, Bellary and not the Ruler of Sandur.

Yours faithfully,

Deputy Secretary
to the Government of India.

No. Hz-I/22/'49

THE PALACE SANDUR.

JULY 28, 1949.

Dear Sri, Vellodi,

✓ p.5 infra.

I am herewith enclosing for your information a copy of a letter we have received from the G.E's Office in respect of the "Cantonment Area" at Ramgad Hill Station in Sandur State, I have brought this matter to the notice of Sri V.P. Menon and yourself (vide letters quoted below-copies of which I am appending hereto for your ready reference) at the time of my signing the agreement regarding the future Administrative set up of my State. Sri V.P. Menon had assured me that in regard to this matter and the other matters mentioned in my letter to him dated the 30th January, 1949 there would be no trouble to accede to my wishes. In view of this assurance I did not consider it necessary to press for the inclusion of these points in the letter Collateral to the Agreement. I am sorry to have to say that even in matters unequivocally agreed to in the Collateral letter and mentioned in the Schedule and Appendicies to the Agreement and Collateral letter respectively, we are going through a great deal of difficulty in getting them. I wonder whether it would be too much to ask you to issue urgent instructions to the concerned authorities to respect the terms of the Agreement and the Collateral letter and hand over to me without further ado (enquiry questioning etc.)., all properties etc. that have been clearly mentioned in the Agreement and the Collateral letter and the Schedules and appendicies thereto. I have already undergone much suffering and I cannot imagine that it could be the intention of the Ministry that I should further be worried and humiliated. You are aware that the Schedule to the Agreement and the various Appendicies to the Collateral letter were prepared at Delhi only after the 'Local Administrators' in cnarge of Sandur Administration had had their say in the matter. It being so it is only fair that no querries should be raised by them now. The Ministry of States is the custodian and protector of all the rights accruing to me under the Agreement (read with collateral letter), and, therefore, I depend on it to help me.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

sd/-
Ruler of Sandur.

Sri M. K. Vellodi,
Secretary,
Ministry of States,
New Delhi.

No. 2042/5/ E.2.,
G.E's Office, Bangalore 1.
Dated 26th July, 1949.

To
The Staff Officer,
to the Ruler of Sandur State,
"Sandur House",
No. 20, Palace Road,
Bangalore.

Subject:- RAMGAD (RAMANDRUG) HILL STATIONS.

.....

Sir,

The Ruler of Sandur State has offered the area known as "Cantonment Area" at Ramgad Hill Station to the Defence Department and H.Q Southern Command have favoured the acceptance of this offer.

Our higher authorities have called for the following particulars in respect of the above offer:-

(1) Survey numbers and area of land offered to military.

(2) Detailed drawings of buildings offered to the Military.

(3) Site plan showing the correct dimension and boundaries of the land.

It will be very much appreciated if you will kindly use your good offices with Department of the State concerned, and furnish this office with the above particulars.

sd/-
A.E.E.,
Actg. G.E. Bangalore.

Copy to:-
M.E.O. Madras Circle, Wellington- reference your number S/63/4/MC dated 14th July, 1949

True-copy
sd/-
.....

Relevant extracts from the letter dated 30th January, 1949 from the Ruler of Sandur to Rao Bahadur V.P. Menon, Political Adviser to the Ministry of States, New Delhi.

.....

1. When I paid you a courtesy call yesterday evening, I was glad you gave me an opportunity to place before you a few points which had been agitating my mind, viz:-

X X X X X

(3) I requested that as regards my Privy Purse

I should be given the most favoured State's treatment. If the basis adopted for Saurashtra States is applied to Sandur them my privy purse would be Rs 1,11,000/-/-. I request with all humility that my privy purse may not be less than Rs 1,00,000/-/-. This will satisfy me immensely and will be a real gesture of good will which I and my family would always remember your good self.

X X X X X

(5) I requested that the Ruler be conferred a Honorary Rank in the Indian Dominion Army in view of the consideration that he had an Honorary rank in the Sandur State Forces.

(6) I requested that the "Sandur State Game Association" (for the preservation of Game in Sandur State Forests) which had been recognised by me should continue to be recognised in the new set up of the State.

(7) I requested that the Ruler's Body Guard should be continued for the purpose of furnishing guards and escorts to the Ruler.

(8) I requested that my promise to Major General Maharaj Shri Rajendra Sinhji to hand over the "Cantonment Area" at Ramgad in Sandur State for the use of the Indian Army should be respected.

I thank you sincerely for having taken all the above suggestions in the proper light, and for your assurance of sympathetic consideration. I feel confident that the above requests of mine will ultimately be accepted and granted with your sympathetic and considerable attitude.

.....

"True Extracts"

.....

Relevant Extract from the letter dated the 7th March 1949 from the Ruler of Sandur to Shri M.K. Vellodi, Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of States, New Delhi.

.....

X X X X X

4.(6) The other requests made by me in my letter to Rao Bahadur Menon of 30th January, 1949, will, I take it, be granted.

X X X X X

Draft I

Public (Political) department

Lr/Reg. no. 4787/49-1 dated 10-9-1949

To the Acting Garrison Engineer,
Bangalore 1: (with encl.)

Sir,

Sub:- States - Sandur - Ramgad Hill station
" Cantonment Area :- Particulars.

Ref:- your letter no 2042/5/E.2., d 26/7/
to the Staff Officer to the Ruler of Sand
Sandur House, No. 20, Palace Road,
Bangalore.

With reference to your letter cited, I am directed to enclose a copy of this Govt.'s proceedings No.1145 Pub.(Pol dated 27-4-49 containing the merger agreement signed by the Ruler of Sandur and to say that as the Sandur State has now merged with the Madras Province, the Collector of Bellary is the proper authority to be addressed for any information relating to Sandur and the Ruler.

8/9/49

Draft II

Lr/Reg. no. 4787/49-2 dated 10-9-49

To the Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Ministry of States,
New Delhi (with enclosures).

Sir,

Sub:- States - Sandur - Merger - Release of the private prop of the Ruler.

Ref:- Ministry of States letter no. D. 6821-P/49 dated 3/8/1949.

I am directed to say that the acting Garrison Engineer, Bangalore has been instructed by this Government as desired by the Govt. of India.

2. With reference to the Ruler's letter d 28.7.49 which forms an enclosure to the Govt. of India's letter cited, I am to say that necessary instructions have been issued to the Collector of Bellary per the release of the private property of the Ruler in this Government's Proceedings No. 2844 Public (1 of 23.8.49. which confirmed the telegraphic instructions issued to the Collector of Bellary in June last. (Copies enclosed for information.)

3. Doubt has arisen as to the return of certain records kept sealed in a box and included in the Schedule of private properties of the Ruler. This matter has formed the subject of separate correspondence with the Government of India - Please see this Government's Lr. no. 4358/49-2, Public (Political), d 9/8/1949.

this has been settled since vide orders issued in No. 3314, Pub (P d 27/9/4

4. There are also some representations from residents of the Sandur State to the effect that their landed properties have been wrongly included in the Schedule and claimed by the Ruler as private properties. The Govt. of India's decision communicated with their letter no. D. 5491-P/49 d 20/7/1949 that the settlement of the private properties of the Ruler is subject to the rights of third parties will, it is presumed, generally apply to such cases.

5. The above are some of the matters that are engaging the attention of this Government at present and if necessary the G of I will be approached at the proper time.

1/9/49 Cur. 3.9.49.

8/9/49

10/9

Public (Political) Department

Sub:- States - Sandur - Kenga - Release of private properties of the Ruler of Sandur -

Ref:- from the Govt. of India, letter no. D. 6821-P/49 d. 3/8/1949.

Please see the letter from the Govt of India in the C.F.

As regards the release of the private properties of the Ruler as per Schedule, it is submitted that necessary instructions were given to the collector of Bellary in this department's telegram no. 5738/4-8-24 d 13/6/49 and formal orders confirming the same were issued in G.O. No. 2844, Public (Political), d. 23/8/49. The question of handing over the properties of temples and other institutions is separately under correspondence with the Govt of India. It may also be mentioned in this connection that this Govt. have pointed out to the Govt. of India that it would not be desirable to hand over certain State records declared as the private property of the Ruler in the interests of public administration. Their views are awaited. A draft letter to India explaining the position is submitted for approval.

With reference to A on p. 1 ante a draft letter to the acting Garrison Engineer, Bangalore is also submitted for approval.

8/9/49

C.S.

(Issued as ltr. no. 4787/49-1 d 10/9/49)
(Issued as ltr. no. 4787/49-2 d 10/9/49)
(From the Govt. of India, Ministry of States,
No. 0. 8400-P/49 d 26/9/49)

Please see the Govt. of India's reply at p. 11 cf. They have reiterated that the settlemen of the private properties of the Ruler is subject to the rights of third parties.

2. No further action is called for in this file. The papers may perhaps be recorded to facilitate future references.

28/9/49 Encl. H.E.H.

3/10/49 C.S.

G.O.M.No. 3384 dated 6/10/49

Sandur – Release of private property of the Ruler – Rights of third parties – Govt. of India's views – Recorded.

Copy of letter No.D.5491-P/49 dated 20th July 1949 from the Government of India, Ministry of States, New Delhi to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, Madras.

...

Sandur State - Ojbection to delivery of possession of lands to Rajah of Sandur.

...

* to be returned.

not sent up

I am directed to enclose a petition from Mr. R. Ganesha Rao minor by father and guardian R.Raghavendra Rao, B.A.,B.L., Advocate Satyanarayanapet, Bellary (Madras), on the subject noted above, and to say that the settlement of the private properties of the Ruler of Sandur is subject to the right of third parties. The applicant should therefore be informed that if he so desires, his rights may be proved to the satisfaction of Courts.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) .....
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

/True copy/

mdk.11/10-

Government of Madras.
Abstract.

STATES - Sandur - Merger - Ruler's private property - Handing over - Orders issued.

Public (Political) Department.

G.O.Ms.No.2844. dated 23rd August 1949.

Read: G.O.Ms.No.1145, Public (Political) dated 27-4-49.
Express Telegram No.5738/48-24, Public (Political) dated 13-6-1949.

ORDER:

In conformity with the instructions issued in the express telegram read above, the Government direct that the private property of the Ruler of Sandur as per schedule communicated with G.O.Ms.No.1145, Public (Political) dated 27-4-49 should be handed over to the Ruler or his representative. Orders regarding the handing over of properties attached to temples will issue separately.

2. The Collector of Bellary is requested to take the necessary action in the matter. He is also informed that the Government of India have recently stated that the private property of the Ruler is subject to the rights of third parties.

(BY ORDER OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.)

K.Ramunni Menon,
Chief Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Bellary.
Copy to the Government of India, Ministry of States, New Delhi for information.

/True copy/Forwarded/By order

Superintendent.

COPY of Telegram from the Public(Political) Department, No.5738/48-24 dated 13-6-1949 to the Collector of Bellary.

Collector Bellary.

Sandur Ruler private properties aaa Reference Government Telegram No.5738-22 dated 26th May aaa All properties of Raja according to schedule may be managed to him representative immediately except those attached to temples about which a further communication will be sent as soon as possible.

Copy of letter from the public(political) Department, No.3738\48-54
dated 15-5-1948 to the Collector of Bellary.

Sir,

I am to refer private properties and Reference
your telegram No.3738-SS dated 26th May and
all properties of M/s. according to schedule may
be handed to him representative immediately except
those attached to temples about which a further
communication will be sent as soon

THIS COPY.

Government of Madras.
Abstract.

STATES - Sandur - Merger - Agreement of merger signed by the Raja - Instructions issued.

- - - -

3. The Collector of Bellary is requested to arrange for the payment of the dues to the Raja of Sandur or members of his family and also for the payment of pension to the officers mentioned in the proceedings of the Sandur Durbar No.IX-7/48 dated 26-12-48 as modified by the Government of India.

(BY ORDER OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR)

K.Kamunni Menon,
Chief Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (with enclosure).
" the Collector of Bellary (with enclosure).
" the Departments of theSecretariat (all sections) including Public (with enclosure.)
Copy to the Government of India Ministry of States, New Delhi (3 copies)

/True copy/Forwarded/By order/

Superintendent.

mdk.28/4-

My Dear Raja Saheb,

With reference to the agreement signed by you on the 1949 ceding to the Dominion Government, full and exclusive authority, jurisdiction and powers for and in relation to the Governance of your State, I write to say that:-

(1) Your privy purse of Rs. Ninety thousand which is provided for in the agreement signed by you is payable in perpetuity to you, your heirs and successors and will neither be increased nor reduced for any reason whatsoever. It will be free of all taxes whether imposed by the Government of any Province or by the Government of India. Till the 31st March 1949 all amounts payable under the Palace (Civil Lists) Proclamation, 1949 (III of 1948) will be paid to you from the provision made in the State budget of 1948-49. The privy purse according to this agreement will come into force with effect from the 1st April 1949.

(2) Reference to the Ruler in Articles 2,3 and 4 include the heirs and successors on the Gadi of the State. This is indeed the significance of the guarantee in Article 5 which expressly extends to succession to your personal rights, besides privileges, dignities and titles.

(3) The Ruler and his successors on the Gadi will continue to retain their hereditary distinctions, designations, titles and honours to which they were entitled prior to August 15, 1947.

(4) The accumulated balances which will be transferred along with the State, shall, as far as possible, be spent for the benefit of the people of your State.

(5) The payment of a sum of Rs.36,000 per annum to the State Temples Fund constituted by the Sandur State Temples Proclamation, 1948 (No.II of 1948) a copy of which is annexed, for the proper maintenance of the temples and institutions specified therein will be continued. The audit of the accounts of the Fund will be carried out by an officer appointed by or under the authority of the Dominion Government.

(6) The amounts given as loans to the State by you or the members of your family, out of personal funds, and the amounts invested by you (or by them) in fixed deposit in Sandur State Treasury shall be returned to the depositor or lender on production of the Fixed Deposit Receipts and other receipt issued by the Sandur State treasury. A schedule of the aforesaid amounts is annexed hereto.

(7) It is intended that permanent members of the public services of Sandur State will be continued in service on conditions as near to those on which they were serving on 29th July 1948 as changed circumstances may permit. In the event of continuance in service not being possible in any case, reasonable compensation will be paid.

(8) Pensions, compassionate allowances, and leave salaries sanctioned by competent authorities in the State before 29th July 1948 to permanent member of its public services who have retired or proceeded on leave preparatory to retirement will be continued. The pensions sanctioned in your Huzur Order of 26th December 1948 as modified by the Government of India, will take effect from 1st April 194

(9) The Ruler of Sandur and his successors shall have exclusive shooting rights in the following areas, Ramgolla (Deogiri) Hathi Maradugolla (Ramgad) Plans no: 3 & 7.

(10) All expenses (including legal fees and travelling and other charges) incurred in connection with the negotiations and finalization of the agreement referred to in this letter, upto the date of such finalization, shall be paid from the State funds. The salary of Rs.250/- per mensem payable to the Industrial Adviser upto 31st March 1949 shall also be paid from State funds.

(11) No enquiry shall be made nor shall any proceedings lie in any court in India against you, whether in a personal capacity or otherwise, in respect of anything done or omitted to be done by you or under your authority during the period of your administration of your State.

(12) Except with the previous sanction of the Government of India, no proceedings, civil or criminal, shall be instituted against any person in respect of any act done or purporting to be done in the execution of his duties as a servant of the State before the date of this agreement.

(13) Any dispute arising under this agreement shall be referred to the Government of India, whose decision shall be final

2. The contents of this letter will be regarded as part of the merger agreement entered into by you with the Governor General of India.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd) M. K. Vellodi

Raja Srimant Yeshwanta Rao,
Rao Sahib, Hindu Rao Ghorpade,
Mamlukatmadar Senapati,
Raja of Sandur,
Sandur.

(True Copy)

AGREEMENT MADE THIS First day of April 1949 between the Governor-General of India and the Raja of

SANDUR STATE

WHEREAS in the best interests of the State of Sandur as well as of the Dominion of India it is desirable to provide for the administration of the said State by or under the authority of the Dominion Government;

It is hereby agreed as follows:-

ARTICLE 1

The Raja of Sandur State hereby cedes to the Dominion Government full and exclusive authority, jurisdiction and powers for and in relation to the governance of the State and agrees to transfer the administration of the State to the Dominion Government on the 1st day of April 1949 (hereinafter referred to as "the said day").

As from the said day the Dominion Government will be competent to exercise the said powers, authority and jurisdiction in such manner and through such agency as it may think fit.

ARTICLE 2

The Raja of Sandur shall with effect from the said day be entitled to receive from the revenues of the State annually for his privy purse the sum of Ninty thousand rupees free of taxes. This amount is intended to cover all the expenses of the Ruler and his family, including expenses on account of his personal staff, maintenance of his residences, marriages and other ceremonies, etc. and will neither be increased nor reduced for any reason whatsoever.

The said sum may be drawn by the Raja in four equal instalments in advance at the beginning of each quarter by presenting bills at the State Treasury or at such other Treasury as may be specified by the Dominion Government.

ARTICLE 3

The Raja shall be entitled to the full ownership, use and enjoyment of all private properties (as distinct from State property) belonging to him on the date of this agreement, and specified in the schedule hereunto appended.

ARTICLE 4

The Raja, the Rani, the Rajmata, the Yuvraj and the Yuvrani shall be entitled to all personal privileges enjoyed by them whether within or outside the territories of the State, immediately before the 15th day of August 1947.

ARTICLE 5

The Dominion Government guarantees the succession, according to law and custom, to the gadi of the State and to the Raja's personal rights, privileges, dignities and titles.

In confirmation whereof Mullath Kadingi Vellodi Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of States has appended his signature on behalf and with the authority of the Governor-General of India and Raja Shrimant Yeshwantarao and Rao Sahib, Hindu Rao Ghorpade, Raja of Sandur State has appended his signature on behalf of himself, his heirs and successors.

Raja of Sandur State.

Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of States.

Dated 1st April 1949.